GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2771
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
PROBLEMS OF GROWERS
T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any memorandum from Kerala Government highlighting the problems confronted by the growers of coconut, rubber, coffee and arecanut;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India received a memorandum from the State Government of Kerala on the decline in the prices of coconut, rubber, coffee, arecanut and the problems being faced by the growers of these crops. Several steps have been taken to arrest the decline in prices of these agricultural commodities. For instance, import duties have been raised on import of coconut oil and certain other edible oils; on coffee and on arecanut. NAFED has also been directed to procure copra under Minimum Support Price Scheme and they have already procured 45900 tonnes of copra. STC has been asked to procure Natural Rubber.A number of steps have also been taken to increase the domestic demand of Rubber.